

MINUTES
STILLWATER COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
Monday, September 13, 2021 at 10:00 am
West Annex Meeting Room

- I. ATTENDANCE:** Mark Crago, Tyrel Hamilton, Steve Riveland, Randy Smith, Natasha Sailer
 - a. Staff:** Josh Juarez, Amy Stadel
 - b. Other Attendees:** Nancy Rohde

- II. REVIEW OF MINUTES**
 - a.** Commissioner Riveland moved to approve August minutes; Natasha seconded. Motion approved.

- III. NEW BUSINESS**
 - a.** Commissioner Crago was approached by a local business that would like to start a “pay to be vaccinated” program. They would donate the money; they would partner with Riverstone Health and Riverstone Health would be the ones distributing the funds. The Board gave their support, as long as this company does their own marketing.

- IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
 - a. Homestead**
 - i.** Nancy Rhode: The county is in the discovery phase of the litigation. Gary Weitz has hired Corey Gamble out of Missoula to represent him.
 - ii.** Josh presented pictures of the most recent repair on the Homestead. It is still not an acceptable fix. Josh sent another certified letter to Gary to let him know that it still does not meet code. Josh had a zoom meeting with DEQ and they are stepping up their enforcement. They are trying to get a search warrant to get a camera down the pipe to see where it is leaking.
 - iii.** Randy moved to have Josh write a letter on behalf of the Board of Health to the DEQ, cc’ the EPA, the building inspectors and the fire marshal, requesting further action from them. Steve seconded the motion.
 - b. Crow Chief Meadows**
 - i.** Josh: the surveyor went to property last week. They are still trying to determine if it will be a boundary line relocation. The adjacent landowner has been notified and they are willing to work with the county.

- V. HEALTH OFFICER REPORT**
 - a.** Nothing to report

- VI. HEALTH NURSE REPORT**
 - a.** The Billings Clinic is looking to hire a new Stillwater County Health Nurse. Natasha and Beth will continue filling in until they fill that position.

- b. The clinic has continued to have increased numbers of positive covid tests. There are currently 51 new cases, 7 hospitalized. The county is at 40% vaccination rate.
- c. Natasha explained that it takes about an hour for her to contact every single person that tests positive. The clinic is taking care of patients and no longer has the ability to do this as it is really time consuming. They have a job posting out to fill that position, but in the meantime, they will be sending a letter to that patient saying that you are positive for covid, gives them the information that they need and tells them when they need to follow up, and asks them to do their own contact tracing. This letter will not go out for children under the age of 18, assisted living or long-term care patients, or communal living spaces. Commissioner Hamilton made a motion to give the public health nurse the authority to contact covid positive patients via a letter (attached to minutes) to do their own contact tracing follow up. Randy Smith seconded the motion. Motion passes.
- d. Natasha asked to use the pavilion on Fridays again for vaccines.
- e. Commissioner Crago wants to talk about reinstating the covid policy for county employees.
- f. Randy made a motion for the BOH to make a formal request for Nancy and the county attorney's office to review and give their interpretation of House Bill 702. Commissioner Riveland seconded the motion. Motion passed.

VII. SANITATION REPORT

- a. Josh has received several calls about work camps.
 - i. Sterling Ballbach wants to put a work camp in for a wind farm in Rapelje. He is looking to put in 21-34 units.
 - ii. There is another one in Absarokee for Moran mining. They have already started the paperwork with Josh. They still need to fill out the new development permit.
 - iii. Dave Russel has a camp on Limestone Rd. Josh has received complaint calls from the neighbors. Josh has reached out to Dave but has not been able to connect with him yet. Josh sent him a certified letter.

VIII. ADJOURN

- a. Commissioner Crago adjourned the meeting at 11:52 am.